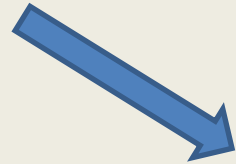
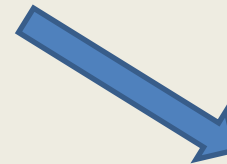


Wild & Scenic Rivers

Eligibility



Suitability



Designation

Only Congress can
designate a
Wild and Scenic River





Wild & Scenic Rivers

Section 5(d)(1) Wild and Scenic River Act:

- Requires identification and evaluation of potential additions to the National Wild & Scenic River System during Land Use Planning Process

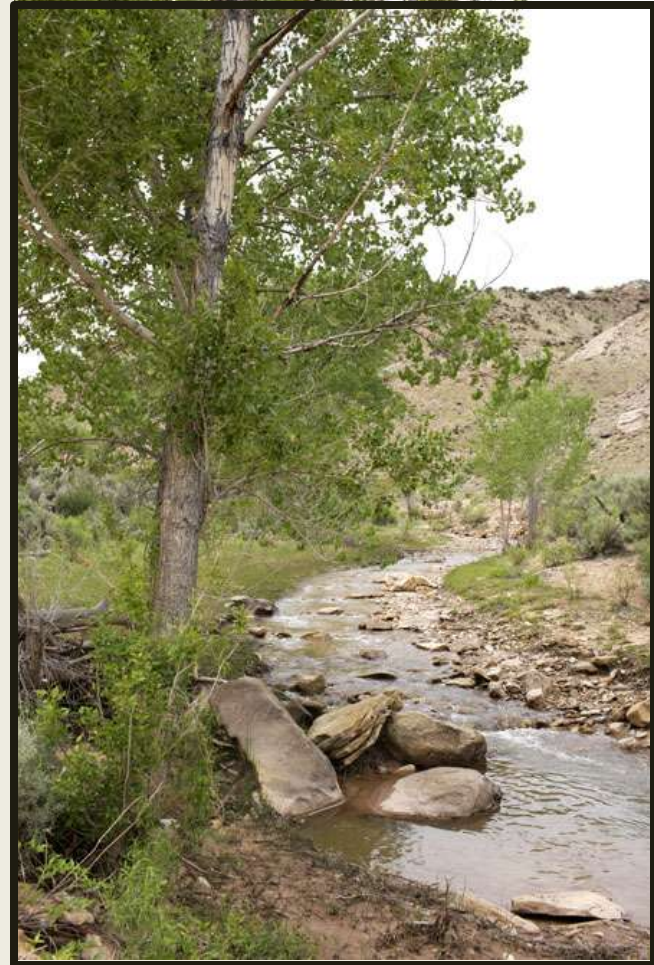
Wild & Scenic River Study Process

Step 1:

Eligibility = identification (inventory)

Stream segment must:

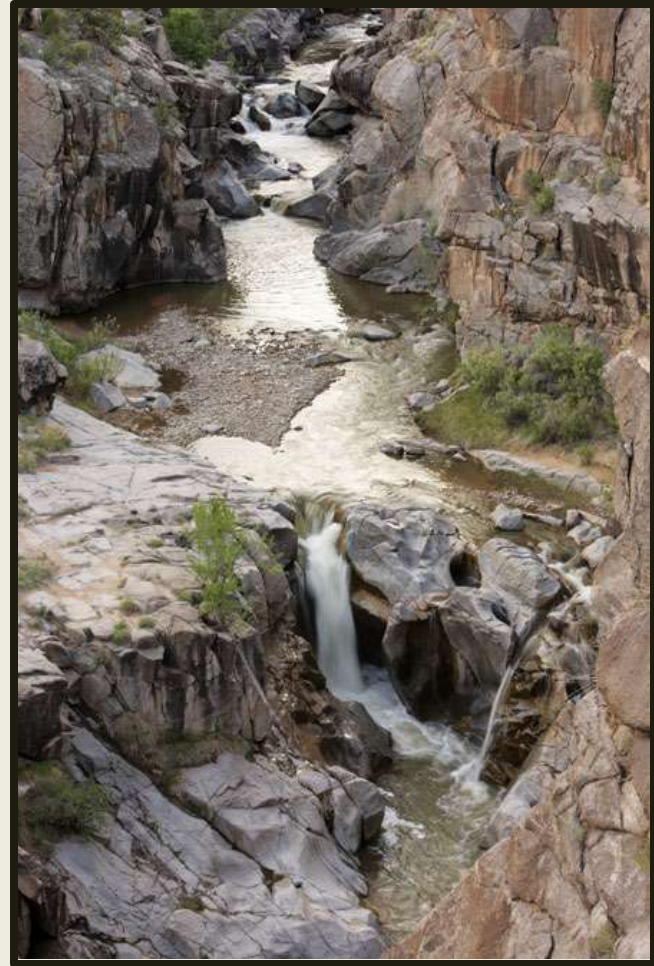
1. Be “free-flowing”
2. Have at least one “outstandingly remarkable value” (ORV)



Wild & Scenic River Study Process

“free flowing”

- Flowing without impoundment
- Can have minor diversions
- Can be a seasonal flow
- Existence of small diversions does not exclude a segment
- Does not have to be boatable



Wild & Scenic River Study Process

“outstandingly remarkable values”

- Scenic
- Recreational
- Geologic
- Fish
- Wildlife
- Cultural
- Historic
- Other similar values (including, but not limited to hydrology, paleontology, and botany)



Wild & Scenic River Study Process

Classification: Level of Development along stream segment

Wild – watersheds and shorelines essentially primitive

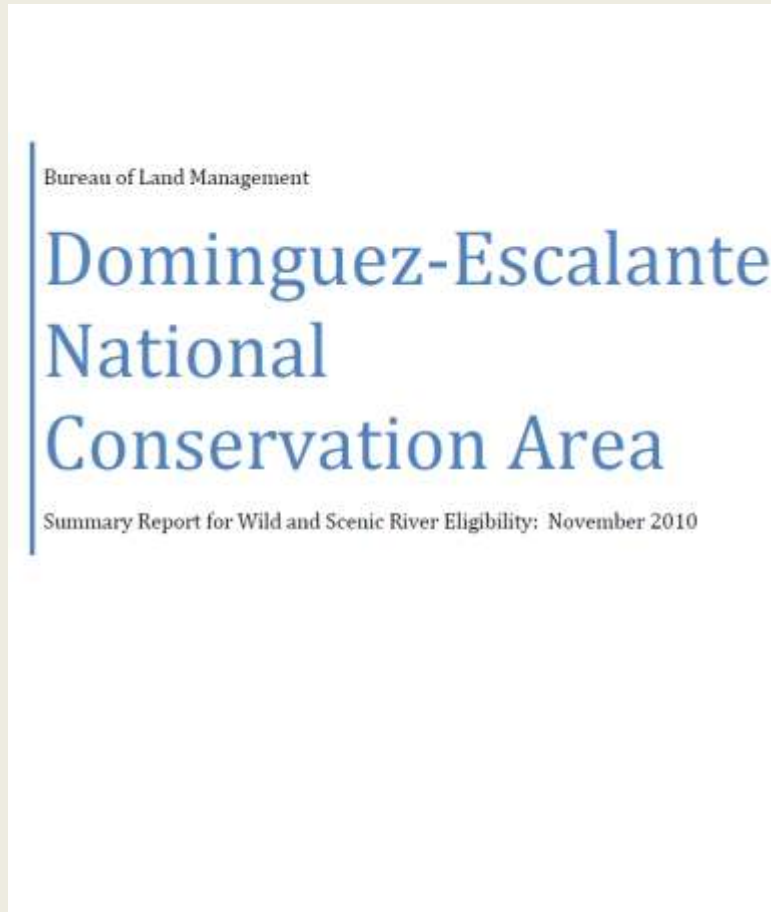
Scenic – watersheds and shorelines largely undeveloped

Recreational – may have some development



Wild & Scenic River Study Process

Eligibility Report is Complete:



Combined the Eligibility finding from the Uncomphagre Field Office and Grand Junction Field Office reports

11 segments on 7 streams found eligible

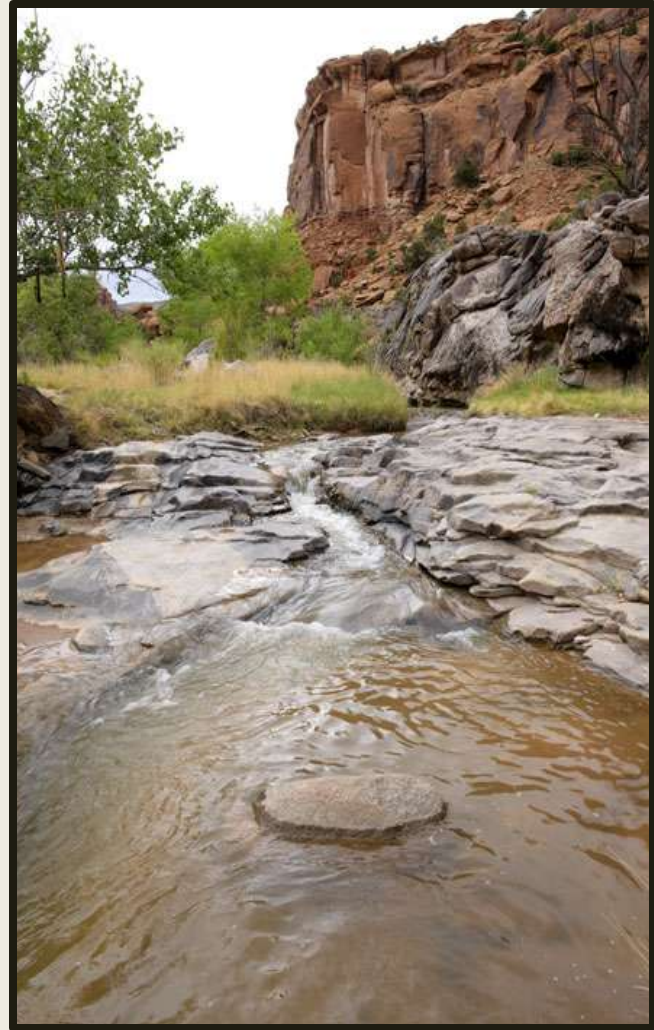
New information on vegetation ranking changes some ORVs

Errata (change) sheet will address the impact to eligibility findings

Wild & Scenic River Study Process

Step 2:

Suitability = evaluation
(determining which rivers/streams
should be recommended for
inclusion in the NWSRS)



Wild & Scenic River Study Process

Suitability Questions:

1. Should the river's free-flowing character, water quality, and ORVs be protected, or are one or more other uses important enough to warrant doing otherwise?
2. Will the river's free-flowing character water quality, and ORVs be protected through designation? Is it the best method for protecting the river corridor?
3. Is there a demonstrated commitment to protect the river by any nonfederal entities who may be partially responsible for implementing protective management?



Wild & Scenic River Study Process

Recommendation

The decision whether or not to recommend designation of a study river is made through the RMP.



Wild & Scenic River

Where are we now?

Gunnison Basin Stakeholder Group working to develop recommendation on suitability.